**Issue Code: 22** 

## City of Knoxville, Office of the Mayor Knoxville, TN Page 1 of 1



THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE VICTOR ASHE MAYOR

January 16, 2001

Mr. Gary S. Hartman U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office P. O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. Harman:

The City of Knoxville has a great interest in activities associated with the Department of Energy (DOE) facilities in Oak Ridge. For that reason, I am writing to provide comments on Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS) for the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant. For over fifty years the Y-12 Plant has played a critical role in ensuring our national security and many Knoxvillians have been a part of this defense mission. Since many of the facilities at the Y-12 Plant are over forty years old, it is certainly appropriate that DOE pursue a major facility modernization.

I commend DOE for its preparation of the Draft SWEIS and want to go on record in support of the new construction of Y-12 facilities for the highly enriched uranium storage mission and the special materials mission. A modernized Y-12 Plant will ensure Y-12's ability for rapid response to its national security role while reducing operating costs and more effectively meeting health, safety and environmental requirements.

Thank you for consideration of these comments that I am requesting to be included in the public hearing record for the Draft SWEIS.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR • 400 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 1631 • KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37901 PHONE 865-215-2040 • FAX 865-215-2085 • e-mail: mayor@ci.knoxville.tn.us

'01 JAN 17 FM2:06

VA:rh

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Comment No. 1
Comment noted.